

Press Clipping Article

Title: Fulton plant to produce 55 million gallons of ethanol annually

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Lead:

Developers of a \$95 million ethanol plant in Fulton are hoping to start construction next month on the facility that would begin production 14 months later.

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Developers of a \$95 million ethanol plant in Fulton are hoping to start construction next month on the facility that would begin production 14 months later.

About 50 people would be employed by Bluegrass BioEnergy LLC, with possible expansion to 80 to 90 jobs.

"This plant is being built and laid out to where it could be expanded to 100 million gallons, which we'll probably do in around three years," said company President Jim Allen, a Milan, Tenn., businessman.

The work force expansion would depend on a potential adjacent biodiesel plant and expansion of the ethanol plant to 100 million gallons, Allen said.

"We're a couple of weeks away from securing senior loans on this thing to start construction," he said. "We have construction and marketing companies lined up and the property purchased."

Bluegrass closed Friday on the last parcel of about 130 acres in the Fulton Industrial Park.

Penny Morgan, Fulton County economic development director, said the purchase took all the land in the park, making it necessary to get options on adjacent land for other industrial development.

Lurgi PSI of Memphis, Tenn., will build the plant and supply part of the equity. A subsidiary of German firm Lurgi AG, the company specializes in construction of ethanol and biodiesel plants.

Marketing will be done by Noble Americas Corp., one of the worlds largest ethanol promoters. Noble will also have a small piece of the ownership.

A Kentucky-based firm has agreed to own half the plant, but Allen declined to identify the

company until financing is secured.

Allen said the plant will use about 19 million bushels of corn per year, which is only about 14 percent of the corn grown within a 50-mile radius. He said he is unconcerned about competition with three other existing or planned ethanol plants in the region because of the exploding demand for ethanol.

"We're not going to even come close to using up the corn in this area with these four plants," he said.

Previous Page Return to Search

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